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### Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes attacked two civilian targets in Iran on 4 March, according to IRNA reports. In the first attack two Iraqi planes fired six rockets destroying a gasoline station near the Ahvaz steel plant, causing "heavy casualties." Later, an Iraqi plane fired an Exocet missile at the incomplete Bushehr atomic plant, causing "some damage." In retaliation for these attacks, an Iranian Armed Forces communique broadcast by Tehran radio announced that Iranian forces will shell Basra at 1630 GMT on 5 March. In response, an Iraqi military spokesman cited by Voice of the Masses radio warned that any attempt to shell Basra will be met with a "violent reply" deep inside Iran. Earlier, an Iraqi Armed Forces communique broadcast by the radio maintained that Iraqi Planes attacked a "Large maritime target" near Khark Island on 4 March "scoring accurate and effective hits." However, shipping sources in Bahrain cited by AFP noted that no distress radio calls were picked up.

### Lebanon

In a statement broadcast by Beirut radio, Amal leader Nabih Birri urged the Lebanese authorities to participate in the struggle against the Israelis by reinforcing the Army and instructing it to "confront" the IDF. Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council, called for a "defensive jihad" against the Israelis and appealed to Lebanese Christians to join the resistance, according to the radio.

Meanwhile, Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam arrived in Bikfayya on 5 March and began talks with President Amin al-Jumayyil, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. An anonymous caller told a Beirut news agency that the "Christian Action Organization" had shelled the airport earlier in the day to protest current security conditions there, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon disclosed.

### Jordan-PLO

King Husayn received a PLO delegation led by Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf on 4 March in Amman, Amman television reported. Earlier, a PLO spokesman in Tunis announced that Jordan has agreed "in principle" to amend two points in the joint agreement concerning the composition of the negotiating team and the timing of Palestinian self-determination, AFP disclosed.

In a related development, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, in a speech broadcast by Cairo radio, called on the United States and all other concerned parties to give the Jordanian-PLO initiative the "encouragement it deserves" and enter into a "preliminary dialogue" with the Arabs to identify possible action. Mubarak went on to say that it is "illogical" to ask either side to make unilateral concessions before starting negotiations.

### Syria

The National Command of the Ba'th Party condemned the PLO-Jordanian agreement and President Husni Mubarak's initiative in a statement broadcast by Damascus television, describing such moves as a "serious deviation" aimed at "liquidating" the Palestinian issue. Despite all these concessions, the United States and Israel "continue to insist on stripping off everything that protects the deviationist Palestinian rightists as well as the Jordanian and Egyptian regimes so that all will come to the negotiating table emptyhanded in a journey of treason, submission, and capitulation," the Syrian Ba'th Party statement contended.

### Algeria

PDRY leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and Libya's Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud arrived in Algeria on 3 March to discuss the establishment of a pan-Arab command with Algerian leaders, Tripoli radio reported. This leadership would lay down a pan-Arab strategy aimed at "speeding up" unity between Libya, Syria, Algeria, and the PDRY, the radio noted.

### Libya

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and visiting Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu exchanged views on the international situation and noted the development of bilateral relations during talks on 4 March, according to Tripoli radio.

### Sudan

President Ja'far Numayri, in a 3 March speech broadcast by Omdurman radio on the occasion of National Unity Day, announced an "integrated plan" to solve the national unity dispute which he said concerned a "very small minority." Numayri maintained that the dispute could only be solved through negotiation and dialogue and therefore repeated his offer of general amnesty and declared a cease-fire by the Armed Forces. Numayri noted that the Armed Forces in the future would fire only in self-defense or in defense of Sudan's interests.

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### Iran-Iraq War

Iranian artillery units shelled Basra for 2 hours on 5 March in retaliation for the 4 March Iraqi attacks on civilian targets, Tehran radio reported. In response an Iraqi military statement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio announced that Iraqi forces will "strike at" 30 Iranian cities including Kermanshah, Tabriz, Ahvaz, and Hamadan. The Iraqi statement advised inhabitants of the Iranian cities to evacuate by 0700 GMT on 6 March. In turn an Iranian military communique cited by IRNA warned of "retaliatory measures" and said Iranian forces would destroy "more sensitive and important" targets if Iraqi forces continue their attacks on civilian targets. Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi asserted that Iran has the capability to "strike deep inside" Iraq, the agency stated.

### Lebanon

*Khaddam Visit* — Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam described his talks with President Amin al-Jumayyil as "positive," noting that he had come to Bikfayya to discuss ways to achieve national accord and security. Khaddam, whose remarks were broadcast by Beirut radio, also disclosed that he will return to Lebanon shortly to complete these discussions.

*Israel and the South* — The IDF conducted search operations in the southern village of Sil'a early on 5 March, Beirut radio noted. In a subsequent development, 30 U.S. civilians working with UNIFIL were evacuated from Lebanon because of threats by Shi'ite organizations, according to Jerusalem radio. Earlier, in speeches broadcast by Beirut radio, Amal movement official Mahmud Faqih and Sidon Deputy Nazih al-Bizri announced their intention to retaliate for the Ma'rakah explosion by hitting targets inside Israel. Al-Bizri also spoke of exporting terrorism "to the heart of the United States." As for the effects of Israel's tough methods in the south, the Tel Aviv paper *YEDI'OT AHARONOT* pointed out that IDF casualties have dropped significantly since the introduction of the "heavy-handed" policy.

### PLO-Jordan

Commenting on the outcome of the meeting in Amman between King Husayn and a visiting PLO delegation, PLO spokesman Ahmad 'Abd al-Rahman announced that the talks resulted in agreement on the amendments proposed by the Palestinian side, Tunis radio reported. A related editorial by Amman's *Al-RA'Y* did not mention any amendments to the PLO-Jordanian agreement, but noted the awareness by both sides of the need to resume dialogue "in order to reach a joint formula" to confront all possibilities and establish the basis for "pan-Arab confrontation" of Israel's settlement plans. Another Jordanian paper, *AL-DUSTUR*, spoke of the "extraordinary importance" of King Husayn's upcoming visit to Egypt.

### Sudan

*Bush Visit* — President Ja'far Numayri and U.S. Vice President George Bush discussed current Africa and Middle East policies at a meeting following the latter's arrival in Khartoum, SUNA reported. Vice President Bush conveyed a message to Numayri from U.S. President Ronald Reagan which stressed U.S. readiness to extend "all the help" Sudan requires to resolve its problems, the agency noted.

*SPLA on Cease-Fire* — The unilateral cease-fire and negotiations President Numayri announced on 3 March "are all deceptions," according to the clandestine radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA). Numayri had already sent a reinforced battalion to attack SPLA forces in Jokau when he was talking about a cease-fire, the radio added. In a separate report the radio announced that "more than 1,500 youths" from Equatoria have joined the SPLA forces in the southern Upper Nile operational zone.

### Morocco

Prime Minister Mohamed Karim Lamrani confirmed that the "only point" on which Morocco could negotiate with Algeria is stopping the attacks on Morocco originating from Algeria, Rabat radio reported. Lamrani reiterated Morocco's stand that the Saharan issue is an "internal matter" in which Algeria should not interfere, the radio added.

### Afghanistan

In a joint statement, four Afghan revolutionary groups announced their "complete merger", Tehran radio reported. The four groups mentioned are the Nasr Organizations of Afghanistan, the Guards of Islamic Jihad, the Islamic Movement of Afghanistan, and the United Front of Islamic Revolution.

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MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

12 MARCH 1985

### Iran-Iraq War

Three Iraqi planes fired two rockets at residential areas of northern Tehran killing five people early on 12 March, IRNA reported. Iraqi planes also raided Masjed-Soleyman, Khorramabad, Borujerd, Dezful, and Arak, though the agency noted that no further details were available on these attacks. Meanwhile, Iran fired surface-to-surface missiles at "economic installations" in Kirkuk as a warning that "any point" in Iraq could come under Iran's missile attacks, according to the agency. In a separate development, the Iranian Kh:tem ol-Anbiya' headquarters announced that "heavy casualties" were inflicted on Iraqi forces during a "successful offensive" on the night of 11-12 March, the agency revealed. An Iraqi military spokesman, in a statement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio, asserted that part of the Iranian forces that attempted an offensive through the Hoveyseh marshes was "destroyed or captured."

These developments followed the 11 March Iraqi air and missile attacks against Borujerd, Bakhtaran, and Tabriz in which over 100 people were killed, according to an Iranian communique cited by IRNA. Tehran radio also noted that Iran continued shelling Basra on 11 March. An Iraqi military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio confirmed the air attack on Tabriz and announced that an Iranian plane that infiltrated the Al-Fadiliyah area near Baghdad was intercepted by ground forces and forced to flee. The communique also announced that Iraqi planes hit another "large maritime target" in the Gulf on 11 March.

Responding to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's call for attacks on civilian targets to cease, Iran's 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani reaffirmed that Iran will "reciprocate" if Iraq stops its attacks on Iranian cities, since attacking Iraqi cities is "contrary to the will" of Iran, IRNA reported.

### Lebanon

*IDF Operation* — The IDF killed 34 "terrorists" and wounded 7 others during its 11 March operation in Al-Zrariyah, the IDF spokesman announced in a statement reported by Jerusalem radio. The Israelis arrested dozens of people, including 20 Lebanese army soldiers who were subsequently released, the radio noted. While Jerusalem radio claimed that no villagers were injured in the IDF operation, Beirut radio cited reports of civilian casualties and accused the Israelis of preventing a Red Cross convoy from entering the village to aid the inhabitants. Beirut radio spoke of "fierce hand to hand combat" in the village and also reported a claim by Lebanese military sources that an Israeli tank was damaged and a helicopter was downed. Monitored Israeli media did not mention any such losses and likewise did not confirm Beirut radio's claim that seven IDF soldiers were killed or injured in a handgrenade attack in al-Nabatiyah.

Commenting on the Al-Zrariyah operation in a Jerusalem television interview, IDF Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi stressed that it was not a reaction to the suicide attack near Metulla on 10 March, but was in response to evidence that a force was being prepared in Al-Zrariyah to attack the IDF.

*Beirut Security, Politics* — Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din, deputy chairman of the Supreme Islamic Shi'ite Council, narrowly escaped assassination at the hands of gunmen in Beirut late on 11 March, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. In the Christian eastern sector, the Phalangist Party's Political Bureau unanimously decided to expel Lebanese Forces Mobilization Branch Chief Samir Ja'ja' from the Phalangist Party, according to the radio. In related reports, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio said that Ja'ja' has criticized and threatened the current Phalangist leadership, and has received a declaration of support from Phalangist officials in Kasrawan headed by Joseph Tutunji, the brother of the late Bashir al-Jumayyil's widow.

### Western Sahara

A 10 March Saharan Information Ministry statement announced that 21 Moroccan soldiers were killed and 34 were wounded as a result of heavy weapons shelling by the Saharan People's Liberation Army against Moroccan Army positions in the southern Western Sahara on 3 March, APS reported.

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## Condolences Sent to Moscow on Chernenko Death

### Leadership Session Held

*LD111706 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 11 Mar 85*

[Text] An extraordinary joint session of the DRA Revolutionary Council, PDPA Central Committee Secretariat and the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium was held this afternoon. Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Commitee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, with deep sorrow informed the session of the death of Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Babrak Karmal stated: The PDPA Central Committee, the Revolutionary Council and the Council of Ministers of the DRA and all workers of the DRA consider the death of K. Chernenko, the outstanding personality of the CPSU and the Soviet Government, the relentless fighter for the aspirations of peace and socialism and the friend of the people of Afghanistan, to be a great loss for the international communist and workers movement and express profound sorrow.

Thus 12 and 13 March are declared days of national mourning in the country and the DRA's state flag is to be flown at half-mast throughout the country and at DRA political representations abroad.

### PDPA, State Send Message

*LD111744 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 11 Mar 85*

[Text] A condolence message of the PDPA Central Committee, the DRA Revolutionary Council and the Council of Ministers:

To the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers

Dear comrades:

On behalf of the PDPA Central Committee, the Revolutionary Council and the DRA Government, all people of Afghanistan express with profound sorrow condolences to the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers and the fraternal Soviet people on the death of Konstantin U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Comrade K. Chernenko was the outstanding personality of the Communist Party and Soviet state, the firm struggler for the aspirations of peace and communism and the prosperity of all peoples. He played a serious role in the all-around development of the Soviet Union and the consolidation of the socialist system.

The relentless struggle toward international peace and security, eliminating the danger of nuclear war and establishing fruitful understanding and cooperation between peoples are associated with his name. The whole glittering life of K. Chernenko is an example of the sincere service to the interests of the Soviet people and all progressive humanity.

K.U. Chernenko personally paid great attention to the consolidation and all-around growth of the fraternal relations between the parties and peoples of our countries for which he won the sincere respect of the workers of Afghanistan.

In these sad days, we announce before the shining memory of K.U. Chernenko that in the future too, we will safeguard friendship and fraternity with the Soviet Union, which was willed to us by the great Lenin.

We will forge ahead on the path determined by the April Revolution, and will carry on the indefatigable struggle against conspiracies and intrigues by imperialism and for our common aspirations toward a lasting and consolidated peace in our world.

We express our profound belief that the people of the Soviet Union, under the leadership of the great party of Lenin, will succeed in achieving outstanding new successes in the way of progressive socialism, in the struggle for peace in the interest of all mankind.

The unforgettable name of K.U. Chernenko will remain forever in our hearts.

Signed The PDPA Central Committee, the DRA Revolutionary Council, the DRA Council of Ministers.

## Karmal Sends Greetings on Air Defense Exercise

*LD101938 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 10 Mar 85*

[Text] A joint air defense rocket-artillery exercise was carried out this morning in one unit of the air defense guided missiles.

Najibullah, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and head of state security services; Brigadier General Nazar Muhammad, member of the PDPA Central Committee and DRA minister of defense, and Brigadier General Sayyed Muhammad Gulabzoy, member of the party Central Committee and minister of internal affairs, observed the exercise.

BIA reports that prior to the beginning of the excercise Brigadier General Abdul Sabur, who was in charge of it, spoke on repelling air and ground targets, then the air defense forces armed rocket and artillery fire against air and ground targets.

At the conclusion of the exercise warm greetings from Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, were conveyed to the participants in the excercise, highly appraising the readiness of the officers and men and their ability.

Also at the end of the excercise, on behalf of the others, an officer assured the PDPA Central Committee that they would always try to enhance their combat readiness for repelling air and ground enemy attacks and safeguarding the peaceful atmosphere of the country.

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MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

13 MARCH 1985

### Iran-Iraq War

Over 700 Iraqi soldiers have been killed or wounded since the start of Iran's 11 March offensive and Iraq's 12 March counter-offensive, according to reports from the Khatam ol-Anbiya headquarters cited by IRNA. However, an Iraqi military spokesman, in an announcement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio, asserted that the Iranian offensive had completely failed. An Iraqi military communique broadcast by the radio maintained that "very large numbers" of Iranian forces were killed. In a related development Tehran radio reported that Iraqi forces used chemical weapons against Iranian forces on 13 march.

Responding to 12 March Iraqi attacks on the cities of Bostan, Piranshah, Marivan, and Hamadan, an Iranian military communique reported by IRNA stated that Iran's heavy artillery will resume its attacks on "military and economic" installations in Basra. The communique reiterated Iran's support and compliance with the UN proposal to cease attacks at 2359 GMT on 11 March, but contended that Iraq failed to comply. Iraqi media has not reported the 12 March attacks on Iranian cities.

### Lebanon

*Phalangist Internal Crisis* — Dismissed Phalangist official Samir Ja'ja' has proclaimed himself commander of an "uprising" within the Lebanese Forces and his supporters have wounded Forces commander Fu'ad Abu Nadir in an assassination attempt in al-Ashrafiyah, the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio announced on 13 March. The reported assassination attempt came in spite of Abu Nadir's decision to restore the independent decisionmaking of the Lebanese Forces, a move which the radio viewed as an attempt to appease Ja'ja's supporters, who enjoy widespread support in the Lebanese Forces. The radio also said that clashes have begun between supporters and opponents of the rebels, who have seized the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. The latter radio went off the air on the morning of 13 March after reporting favorably on the "uprising" and denying reports of clashes in East Beirut. It claimed that citizens viewed the action taken by Ja'ja' as "reassuring," and cited declarations of support for Ja'ja' from Phalangist and Christian circles. Meanwhile, Voice of Arab Lebanon linked President Amin al-Jumayyil's decision to cancel his visit to Moscow with the crisis in the Phalangist Party.

*Israel and the South* — Two IDF soldiers were killed and seven others were injured in further attacks on Israeli troops in the south, Jerusalem radio announced. Most of the casualties were caused by gunfire near the Al-Qasimiyah bridge but one soldier was injured by another car-bomb. The radio subsequently indicated that some Israeli Cabinet ministers are considering implementing the second and third phases of the withdrawal simultaneously, though "no changes on accelerating the withdrawal are to be expected at the moment." Senior IDF sources pointed out that the IDF would have no difficulty in combining the second and third stages of the withdrawal, the radio added.

Commenting on the U.S. veto of the UN Security Council's condemnation of Israel's "savage" actions in southern Lebanon, Beirut radio said this will encourage Israel to commit further "massacres."

### Syria

President Hafiz al-Asad began his third presidential term with a speech to the People's Assembly, broadcast by Damascus radio, in which he warned of the dangers of the "frightening move toward capitulation and the liquidation of the Palestine question under the cover of the so-called peace process." Contending that a just peace "is not achieved by begging, but by sacrificing," Al-Asad rejected the way the Palestine question is being handled by "the lowly ones," adding that the alternative to this is "militant" action as exemplified by the Lebanese National Resistance, whom Syria will continue to support until Lebanon is "completely liberated" from Israeli occupation. The president also reaffirmed his commitment to Arab unity, saying that every Arab country should "grow larger in order to include the Arab homeland" and that the goal of Arab unity should be "above Arab differences."

On internal matters, Al-Asad urged officials and the public to adopt a greater "sense of responsibility" to combat "violations," and he added that the news media should not remain silent over "errors." As for Syria's economic potential, the president disclosed that light crude oil was recently discovered for the first time, and that studies indicate the presence of "encouraging" quantities of natural gas in Syria.

### Egypt

In a statement to U.S. President Ronald Reagan carried by MENA following their 12 March meeting, President Husni Mubarak said the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement is a "major step" that should not be "discounted or discarded." Mubarak added that "we cannot afford another missed opportunity for peace."

### Maghreb

A recent press conference given by Morocco's King Hassan II increased doubts and placed "obstacles" before a Maghreb "concerted action" to solve the Western Sahara conflict, according to an Algerian Foreign Ministry communique broadcast by Algiers radio.

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**Karmal Leaves for Chernenko Funeral in Moscow**
*LD121401 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 1130 GMT 12 Mar 85*

[Text] Kabul, 12 Mar (BAKHTAR) — Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, left this afternoon for the Soviet Union to attend the funeral of K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Babrak Karmal was seen off at Kabul airport by Soltan Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers; members of the Politburo and Secretariat of the PDPA Central Committee; members of the party Central Committee; vice chairmen of the Revolutionary Council and Presidium; members of the Revolutionary Council and Council of Ministers; some members of the Supreme Court; some members of the NFF Executive Council and high council of ulema and clergy; members of the DRA Islamic Affairs Department; chairmen of the social organizations; and Fikryat Akhmedzhanovich Tabeyev, ambassador plenipotentiary and extraordinary of the USSR to the DRA.

**BAKHTAR on Reagan Concern for Afghan Muslims**
*LD111008 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0436 GMT 11 Mar 85*

["Reagan's Provocations" — BAKHTAR headline]

[Text] Kabul, March 10, BAKHTAR — Ronald Reagan in his recent meeting in Washington with King Fahd of Saudi Arabia demanded from him that the Islamic world should become close with the West.

Reagan demanded this from King Fahd when they were talking about Afghanistan. Reagan's objective is to draw the Muslim nations of the Middle East to the undeclared war against Afghanistan which has been continuing for the past seven years.

Reagan has chosen this special moment for such a provocative demand because he needs more money for the arming and giving military training to the counter-revolutionary elements in addi tion to the 280 million dollars which the U.S. has already allocated for this ominous purpose.

*THE WASHINGTON POST* writes that Reagan wants to develop the undeclared war against Afghanistan to one of C.I.A. greatest activity after the Vietnam war. Therefore, Reagan is striving to turn the undeclared war to a joint action to be taken by the Islamic and Western countries against the DRA.

To achieve this end, the U.S. President has impudently alleged that the people in Afghanistan are barred from praying and observing their religious ceremonies.

Mr. Reagan who in collusion with Israeli Zionism has despised the first Muslim kiblas, and has martyred thousands of Palestinian and Lebanese Muslims impudently claims for the religious rights of Muslims. Reagan should remember that the revolutionary Afghanistan from the very beginning of the victory of April Revolution 1978, declared to the peoples of the world especially to the Muslims that the observance of religious rites and freedoms is strictly guaranteed here.

In the past two years alone, the DRA has spent 150 million afghanis (afs. 50 equals one US dollar) for the repair and construction of mosques. Various material and moral aids are given to the clergymen and religious scholars. The number of pilgrims who annually go to Ka'ba's pilgrimage are on the increase. The state of the DRA has spent so far 197 million afghanis on Mecca and Medina pilgrimages.

The fake and slanderous assertions made by Reagan are indicative of the fact that the United States is trying to hatch conspiracies through its lackeys for its imperialist interests in south west Asia.

The official sources of Pentagon have explicitly stated that the United States will continue the war in Afghanistan to the last Afghan. Reagan's demagogic concern over the freedom of faith and observance of religion in Afghanistan is only pretext for covering his crimes.

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### Iran

A bomb attached to a "terrorist" exploded at the Friday prayers ceremony at Tehran University on 15 March, IRNA announced. President 'Ali Khamene'i, who led the sermon, denounced the act as a plot by the "Munafiqeen splinter group," the agency reported. Five worshippers and the "terrorist" were killed as a result of the explosion, the agency stated.

### Iran-Iraq War

While INA reported that Iranian artillery continued to shell Basra "residential areas" on 15 March, IRNA reiterated that Iran is prepared to halt its "aerial and missile" attacks on Iraqi residential areas if Iraq makes firm commitments to international organizations that it will stop its attacks on Iranian cities.

As for the battles east of the Tigris, an Iranian military communique reported that "magnificent victories" were achieved and that the number of Iraqi troops killed or wounded "surpassed 1,000," according to IRNA. The communique also stated that an Iraqi PC-7 plane was shot down in the area on 14 March. Nevertheless, an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio maintained that the Al-Humayun and Al-Sakhrah areas were "completely purged" and that "thousands" of Iranian troops have been killed.

### Lebanon

*Phalangist Internal Crisis* — The Lebanese Forces Command Councilannounced the formation of an "emergency committee" following a 14 March meeting, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. Fu'ad Nadir and Sami Ja'ja' were appointed members of the committee, the radio noted. Earlier, members of the Lebanese Forces Command met with members of the committee headed by the Maronite patriarch in Bkirki, according to the radio. In a statement on the Bkirki meeting broadcast by the radio, the leaders declared that they will continue to support all constitutional institutions.

*Karami in Syria* — Prime Minister Rashid Karami and Tourism Minister Walid Junblatt discussed the current Lebanese situation during a meeting with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, according to Damascus radio.

*UK Scientist Kidnapped* — A UK Embassy spokesman announced that a British metallurgist was kidnapped by three armed men near his home in West Beirut on 14 March, AFP reported.

### Egypt

President Husni Mubarak and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher discussed the Middle East situation during their 14 March talks in London, MENA reported. According to a PRESS ASSOCIATION report on the talks, Prime Minister Thatcher "offered her support" for Mubarak's peace initiative.

Describing the results of Mubarak's talks with U.S. officials as "expected," a Cairo radio commentator, in remarks broadcast by the radio, said no one expected the United States to recognize the PLO or begin negotiations with a PLO-Palestinian delegation "immediately." The commentator went on to note that a "positive sign" was the fact that the United States "stressed" that peace talks should be based on returning occupied territories and restoring Palestinian rights.

### OAPEC-Iraq

The OAPEC judicial tribunal rejected Iraq's request for "urgent measures" to reopen its oil pipeline through Syrian territory and decided that "irrepairable damage" can be financially compensated, KUNA reported.

### Sudan

*SPLA Attacks* — A Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) battalion attacked and captured a Sudanese Army garrison near Mongalla in Equatoria on 13 March, the clandestine SPLA radio reported. In another report the radio announced that SPLA forces shot down a Buffalo transport plane at Akobo the same day. However, a Sudanese military spokesman maintained that the transport plane carrying supplies for refugees "crashed" during takeoff, according to SUNA.

*Muslim Brotherhood* — Information Minister 'Ali Shammu, in an exclusive statement to the Egyptian paper *AL-AHRAM* cited by MENA, said that Iran was behind the "recent attempt" by Muslim Brotherhood members to seize power in Sudan. 'Ali Shammu went on to describe the recent arrests of Muslim Brotherhood members as a "precautionary measure."

### Pakistan

The Foreign Ministry lodged a "strong protest" with the DRA charge d'affaires over three incidents of airspace violations by DRA planes over the Arandu area on 13 March, Karachi radio reported. According to the report a total of 11 DRA planes dropped 37 bombs and fired rockets during the attacks.

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### Karmal Sends Congratulation Message to Gorbachev

*LD141456 Kabul BAKHTAR in Pashto and Dari 1145 GMT 14 Mar 85*

[Text] Kabul, 24 Hoot, 14 Mar (BAKHTAR) — On the occasion of the election of Mikhail S. Gorbachev as general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, the following congratulation message has been sent to Moscow from Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council:

Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee,

Dear Mikhail Sergeyevich,

On behalf of the PDPA Central Committee, the people of Afghanistan and on my own behalf, I express my sincere and fraternal congratulations on the occasion of your election to the high and responsible rank of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The workers of our country pay high respect to you as an outstanding party and state personality, a relentless Marxist-Leninist, devoted internationalist struggler and the dear friend of the people of Afghanistan.

The PDPA and the DRA Government are profoundly grateful to the Soviet Union and its selfless internationalist assistance to the free people of Afghanistan in its struggle against foreign interference by the forces of international imperialism, Chinese hegemonism and the reaction of the region for the consolidation of the national independence and sovereignty of the DRA, the realization of the aspirations of the April Revolution and the development of Afghanistan on the path of progress and creativity. In the future too, we shall render all measures towards the blossoming of internationalist friendship which link the DRA to the homeland of the great Lenin and the Soviet people. We shall consolidate our revolutionary solidarity and shall actively develop mutual, beneficial and all-around cooperation.

Dear Mikhail Sergeyevich, I assure you that the PDPA and the people of Afghanistan will not spare any efforts in rendering all-around assistance to the peace-loving foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet Government in the struggle towards reducing tension and maintaining international security for the purpose of restraining the forces of militarism and aggression, consolidating the unity of the forces of socialism, peace and progress and obtaining the national independence of the peoples.

I sincerely wish you health and greatest victories in accomplishing great and constructive tasks on the path of the construction of a communist society and struggle for maintaining lasting peace on the planet earth.

[Signed] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council.

### NEW TIMES Cited on U.S. Military Aid to Pakistan

*LD150638 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0430 GMT 15 Mar 85*

[Text] Kabul, March 14, BAKHTAR: A review of the facts shows that the cooperation of Pakistan's military with Washington in the country's militarisation has been growing more dangerous for the cause of peace and security in Asia, writes *KABUL NEW TIMES*.

Recently, the U.S. Administration once more promised military and economic package aid of over 4,000 million dollars to Pakistan for the next three years. No doubt, that aid just as the money granted before, will be used to supply Islamabad with the latest types of armaments and create new naval and air bases in Pakistan as part and parcel of the Pentagon's military strategy in the region.

The U.S. Central Command has already included Pakistan in the zone of operations of its "Rapid Deployment Force" and the American militarists are now planning to install their Pershing II nuclear missiles on its territory.

Not contented with billions of dollars from the U.S., Pakistan's military dictatorship is spending the lion's share of the national budget for its arms build-up. The share amounts to over 45 percent of all government spending which is the fourth largest proportion in the world. Small wonder that the nation should be experiencing most serious economic difficulties which are bearing hard on the Pakistani people. Pakistan's foreign debt has built up to 3,000 rupees per head.

### Clandestine on Rebel Actions in Paktia Province

*GF141800 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Pashto 1700 GMT 14 Mar 85*

[Text] According to a report from a Paktia mujahidin source, 600 Soviet aggressor troops and Karmal mercenaries recently attacked mujahidin positions in Oruzgan District of Paktia Province. The mujahidin, in a counterattack between 1900 and 2400, killed 30 enemy soldiers and captured 6 others. The enemy troops withdrew after sustaining these casualties.

The same report says that a few days prior to this incident, Soviet and Karmal mercenaries moving between Gardez and Chamkani Districts of Paktia Province were ambushed by the mujahidin. The mujahidin destroyed five Soviet mountainous terrain tanks and seven trucks, killing the passengers and crews.

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### Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes launched a series of "successful raids" on Esfahan, Bushehr, and Kermanshah on 20 March, according to Voice of the Masses radio. An Iraqi military communique broadcast by the radio announced 19 March raids against the Iranian towns of Bushehr, Hamadan, Ardabil, Garang, and Khorramabad. The communique stated that Iraqi attacks will continue "from a position of strength" until Iran accepts peace. Meanwhile, Iran shelled the Iraqi towns of Basra, Mandali, Khanaqin, Zurbatiyah, and Sayyid Sadiq with heavy artillery, the communique stated. On the Badr operation battlefronts "intense fire" continued as Iranian troops proceeded with "mopping up" operations, Tehran radio reported.

In a separate development, Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi-Khamene'i, in an interview with Tehran radio, maintained that Iraq's threats about the security of civilian airliners are "contagious" and can spread to the airspace "of all regions." The prime minister added that Iraq should count on the fact that Baghdad airport may come under attack by Iranian missiles.

### GCC and the Gulf War

On his return from Baghdad the Kuwaiti foreign minister said he received a "full response" to his mission from Iraq, but noted that Iran has not sent a response that would enable a GCC delegation to visit Tehran, according to KUNA.

### Reaction to Baghdad Tripartite Meeting

Following the 18 March meeting Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and Jordan's King Husayn held with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, in an interview with Jerusalem television, expressed hope that a Baghdad-Amman-Cairo Arab bloc would adopt Egypt's peace policy in principle and provide a counterweight to the "rejectionist front" Arab states. Israeli political sources contended that Mubarak's peace initiative could now win "renewed impetus" as a result of the Baghdad meeting, according to the Tel Aviv paper *HA'ARETZ*.

### Lebanon

*Sidon Clashes* — Six people were killed and 30 others were wounded during fighting between Lebanese Army troops and the Lebanese Forces near Sidon on 18 and 19 March, Beirut radio reported. The radio noted that sporadic sniper fire continued early on 20 March. Earlier, Lebanese Forces gunmen warned more than 30,000 Sidon citizens to evacuate their homes, according to the radio.

*Israeli Withdrawal* — Israeli Prime Minister Peres, in comments broadcast by IDF radio, reiterated that Israel will withdraw from "almost all" of Lebanon within 2 months. Peres maintained that Israeli security can be ensured through "suitable" IDF deployment along the border and "not from Lebanon." Meanwhile, Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, on a tour of southern Lebanon, inspected the "planned security zone," ITIM reported.

*IDF Operation* — A man was killed and another was wounded by IDF forces when they tried to escape during a search operation in 'Aba, Jerusalem radio announced.

### Sudan

Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) units launched a successful raid into Rumbek on 15 March and destroyed enemy installations, according to the clandestine SPLA radio. The radio also reported that SPLA units raided and shelled Akobo on 16 March causing "heavy damage." In a separate development, a Sudanese military spokesman cited by SUNA stated that "outlaws" recently attacked a church in the Adong area and killed a priest.

### DRA-Pakistan

The DRA Foreign Ministry denied as "groundless" Pakistani charges that DRA planes bombed the Domandai area on 7 March and the Arandu area on 12 and 13 March, Kabul radio reported.

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### Karmal Opens PDPA Central Committee Plenum

*LD191756 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 19 Mar 85*

[Text] The PDPA Central Committee's 15th plenum was convened today in Kabul city. Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, formally opened the plenum.

After presenting the plenum's agenda and after its unanimous approval, Babrak Karmal delivered the basic statement of the plenum on the intensification of party work among the masses and the enhancement of the level of their activities in defense of the homeland and the revolution; this was warmly welcomed with revolutionary feelings by those attending the plenum. The work of the plenum is continuing.

Officials in charge of PDPA Central Committee departments, deputy heads of departments of the PDPA Central Committee, heads of regions, secretaries of provincial party committees, governors, and other comrades are taking part in the plenum.

### Pakistani Allegations of Bombing Rebuffed

*LD191635 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 19 Mar 85*

[Text] The charge d'affaires of the Pakistan Embassy in Kabul was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at 1030 yesterday and the following matters were pointed out to him by the official responsible for the First Political Section:

In the course of its previous false and groundless allegations, the Pakistani authorities have once again claimed that on 7 March four Afghan aircraft fired rockets and bombarded an area 5 km south east of Domandi, and on 12-13 March the area of Arandu.

After assessing and investigating these claims, the relevant Afghan authorities have considered them to be groundless and motivated allegations and, while resolutely refuting them, have demanded that the Pakistan Government put an end to such fabrications and fictions, which do nothing but aggravate thesituation along the borders of the two countries.

### U.S., Pakistan 'Conspiracies' Condemned

*LD200039 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 19 Mar 85*

[Text] All of the evidence indicates that the notorious Reagan administration, by endeavoring to implement the strategic plans designed by the Pentagon planners and the destructive CIA organization, has come out to broaden the undeclared war. Parallel to this, it launched a worldwide anti-Afghan campaign to implement the predetermined objectives. The spiteful and revengeful hysteria of imperialists against the revolutionary people of our country becomes more inflamed with each failure and scandalous defeat of the exported and sold-out counterrevolutionaries who are instrumental for the implementation of these interfering and inhumane plans of Washington's palace dwellers. The powerful hand of the DRA's heroic Armed Forces makes the Pentagon further broaden its shameful interference in order to halt the victorious process of the April Revolution which is the messenger of freedom, honor, and prosperous life for the deprived people.

Despite false claims and hypocrisy aiming to brighten the faces of those in charge of the affairs in the United States and its allies before their people, undeniable documents and indisputable evidence proving the increasing crimes of these criminals are becoming available. As is said, the final destiny of fabrication and manufacturing of tales is nothing but disgrace and exposition of truth.

The U.S. Government today is not only struggling with formidable problems with respect to its open interference in the internal affairs of the DRA — contrary to all current norms and standards of international life — but is confronted with unavoidable scandals after exposure of these dreadful undercover activities. If U.S. public opinion were drawn to them, the Watergate scandal would be a minor event in comparison . The shameful memory of the Washington administration after the exposure of Pentagon documents about Vietnam, whereupon the U.S. president at that time admitted deceiving the U.S. nation and resigned, will be revived. [sentance as heard]

The documents obtained indicate that the U.S. Government with the assistance of the CIA murderer organization [passage indistinct] which even by the standards of the bourgeoisie society itself, the Congress and the House of Representatives must have known about it, Stinger-type antiaircraft rockets which follow the red rays produced by the rocket itself, and were given only to the Government of Saudi Arabia. Via this channel, these rockets (? reach) Afghan counterrevolutionary bands in Pakistan.

A letter from the so-called Etihad-e Islami Mujahidin of Afghanistan addressed to the commandment of the band's military committee, is asking for the dispatch of a number of trained Pakistani instructors since the counterrevolutionary elements are unfamiliar with the functioning of weapons made in the United States. This document bears the signature of the general commandment of a subdistrict in accordance with the self-made country chart of this band.

The other document from the commissioner's office of the so-called Afghan mujahidin, names eight U.S. and Saudi Arabian experts and two French physicians as far as the new weapons have been delivered, in such a way that each instructor or expert should be accompanied with a Dari speaking translator. [sentence as heard]

It is interesting that at the end of another document written by a Peshawar assistant intelligence director and addressed to the general intelligence director of Islamabad — in which five instructors were named to launch an agitation campaign in Afghanistan, particularly in Kabul on 21 March, that is to say New Year's Day — the observance of the undercover plan at all levels, has been recommended. However, the destiny of conspiracy and treachery, even undercover, is doomed to disgrace. The notorious Washington administration, which has experienced the blow of such scandals, still does not refrain from evil deeds. It strives in a broader scale to blind the world public and most of

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### Iran-Iraq War

Six people were killed on board an Iranian supply vessel during a missile attack on Iran's oil terminal at Khark Island, according to shipping sources cited by KUNA. Neither Iranian nor Iraqi media have reported the attack on Khark Island. An Iraqi military spokesman, in an announcement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio, declared that an Iranian F-5 plane was shot down by Iraqi planes over Iranian territory north of Sanandaj on 20 March and reiterated the warning that Iranian airspace is considered an exclusion zone. Meanwhile, Tehran and Baghdad radios reported Iraqi planes attacked the Iranian cities of Tabriz, Hamadan and Dezful late on 20 March. Iran hit the Iraqi cities of Basra, Khanaqin, Mandali, Beydarvaz, Khurmal, and Sayyid Sadiq with artillery fire the same day, an Iranian military communique cited by Tehran radio maintained.

On the diplomatic front, India's Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi sent a high-level delegation to Baghdad and Tehran for talks aimed at stopping the Gulf war, Delhi radio disclosed. Prior to his delegation's departure for Baghdad, India's minister for external relations acknowledged that only "moral pressure" on behalf of India and the Nonaligned Movement can be used in the negotiations, the radio noted.

### Lebanon

*Phalangist Crisis* — The Lebanese Forces suspended its rules for a 6-month transitional period following a 20 March meeting of the Lebanese Forces "emergency committee," Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The emergency committee was converted to an "executive committee" and Samir Ja'ja' was appointed as the Lebanese Forces chief of General Staff, the radio announced. Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami, in comments broadcast by the radio, said the 20 March cabinet session issued the necessary instructions to the Lebanese Army to put an end to "current developments." Karami declared that the events in Sidon cannot be accepted or tolerated.

*IDF, Lebanese Army Clash* — Citing security sources, Beirut radio asserted that Israeli troops parachuted into 'Arab Salim and surrounding villages and, along with troops in military vehicles, established positions before moving north along two axes. The sources added that "violent fighting" raged between the Israeli forces and the Lebanese Army in the area.

### Egypt

In response to an OAU invitation, Egypt decided to attend an Afro-Arab cooperation conference to be held in Libya, Cairo radio announced.

### Israel on PLO-Jordan Agreement

The Israeli Prime Minister's Office announced that there has been "no change" in Israel's position rejecting negotiations between the United States and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, according to Jerusalem radio.

### Pan-Arab Command Meeting

Libya's Staff Major 'Abd al-Salim Ahmad Jallud arrived in Damascus on 20 March for a meeting on the establishment of "strategic Arab unity" between Libya, Algeria, Syria, and the PDRY, according to JANA. Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam later held a quadripartite meeting with the Libyan, Algerian, and PDRY delegations, Damascus radio reported. The Algerian and PDRY foreign ministers attended the meeting, the radio noted.

### DRA-Pakistan

The DRA Foreign Ministry demanded an immediate end to persistent aggression by the Pakistani Army and Pakistan's arming of "bandits" which infiltrate into Afghanistan, Kabul radio reported. The DRA Foreign Ministry noted that Pakistan will be responsible for the "dangerous consequences" if the aggression and armed interference continue. Pakistani charges of DRA bombings in the Arandu area were denied as "groundless allegations," the radio stated.

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### Karmal Chairs Revolutionary Council Meeting

*LD211007 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0451 GMT 21 Mar 85*

[Text] Kabul, March 20, BAKHTAR — The second convocation of the Revolutionary Council for the current Afghan year ending March 20, 1985 was held here today under the chairmanship of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA.

The Revolutionary Council reviewed the activities of the Presidium of Revolutionary Council of the DRA, the socio-economic development plan of the DRA and the state budget for the new Afghan year beginning March 21, 1985 and the budgetary accomplishments in the outgoing Afghan year.

### DRA Accuses Pakistan of Cross-Border Aggression

*LD201946 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 20 Mar 85*

[Text] The charge d'affaires of the Pakistan Embassy in Kabul was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at 1430 hours today, where the official in charge of the First Political Department stated the following to him:

According to reports by relevant DRA authorities, the persistent and irresponsible aggression of the Pakistani border forces, with the use of heavy weapons, is continuing in residential areas in various border regions of the DRA. As a result of these shellings, a number of old men, women, and children have been martyred. In particular, residential areas in the Barikowt region of Konarha Province have been the subject of these merciless attacks.

During the past few months the Pakistani Army committed 29 aggressions against the residential areas in Barikowt, as a result of which 12 people were martyred or wounded. In the course of 2 and 1/2 months of the current year heavy weapons such as explosiveshells, guns, mortars, and DSHK's have been fired some 34 times. Among these attacks, those of 19, 20, and 21 January and 5, 7, and 8 February were particularly severe and merciless. More recently, on 12, 13, and 14 March the Pakistani border force fired at Barikowt. As a result of these shellings during the past 4 months, 27 people were martyred and another 24 wounded.

Moreover, on 8 March at 1730, Pakistani agents attacked Afghanistan's Towr Kham border post with light weapons. And on 10 March, Towr Kham came under mortar and DSHK attack from 0610 to 1000, which resulted in the martyrdom of three and wounding of two people.

On 14 March, after heavy shelling, a 150-man group supported by the Pakistani Army attacked the control and passage area of Towr Kham and was repulsed by the DRA border army. As a result, a border staff member was killed and two others were wounded.

On 15 March an attack on two border posts at 1030 left three people martyred and four wounded.

The DRA authorities strongly condemn this persistent aggression by the Pakistan Army, the arming of bandits and infiltrating them onto Afghanistan soil for murder and subversion, and the direct cooperation of the Pakistani militia with these plundering and murderous bands, and lodge a strong protest against the government of Pakistan.

In addition, they demand that the Pakistani authorities put an immediate end to these aggressions and armed interference which have endangered peace and security on the borders. Otherwise the dangerous and heavily responsible consequences will rest with the Pakistani military authorities.

According to another report, the official responsible for the First Political Section told the charge d'affaires of Pakistan: In order to conceal their hostile actions, the Pakistani authorities, in line with their past and groundless allegations, recently claimed once again that on 14 March at 0910 four Afghan aircraft entered 3 km inside Pakistani airspace, dropped four bombs in the Arando area, and fired rockets, all of which caused no damage.

Similarly the Pakistan authorities alleged that at 1120 on the same day four Afghan aircraft and two helicopters penetrated 1 km into Pakistani territory, dropped a bomb on the Arando region, and fired several rockets, as a result of which an Afghan nomad and a Pakistani were killed.

After investigation and assessment, the DRA relevant authorities find these claims to be a groundless and motivated accusation, refute them resolutely, and demand that the Pakistan Government put an end to such lies and fabrications, which result in nothing but aggravation of the situation on the borders of both countries.

### Mujahidin Kill 15 DRA Troops, Down 2 Helicopters

*LD192239 Riyadh SPA in English 1930 GMT 19 Mar 85*

[Text] Islamabad, March 19, SPA — Nearly 15 Kabul Regime's soldiers were killed during mujahideen's attack on Soviet-Afghan troops in (Panjwai) village of Qandhar town, Western diplomatic sources said here today.

During the attack on February 20 in Qandhar, the mujahideen also shot down two Soviet helicopters, the sources said.

They added a large Soviet-Afghan force last week carried out a pre-emptive strike over mujahideen positions in Paghman valley near Kabul, causing heavy civilian casualties.

The sources said two huge explosions rocked Kabul city last Saturday. In retaliation two days later, Soviet helicopters bombed surrounding suburbs destroying many houses, they said.

The sources added that Soviet choppers bombed mujahideen positions in (Chehel-Sutoon) on south-western side of Kabul, but by mistake killed 30 militiamen of the Afghan Interior Ministry.

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### Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes raided selected targets in Tehran, Kermanshah, and Hamadan late on 25 March, an Iraqi military spokesman announced on Voice of the Masses radio. The spokesman added that this is new proof that the "whispers of Zionism" and aid from its Arab allies will not help Iran. Seven people were killed and 30 others were wounded in the Iraqi raid on Tehran residential areas late on 25 march, IRNA reported. Meanwhile, Iraqi planes raided two "large maritime targets" near Khark Island late on 25 March, according to an Iraqi spokesman cited by Voice of the Masses radio. Earlier, IRNA reported that three Iraqi planes were shot down during an attempted attack on Khark Island oil terminal midday on 25 March. An Iraqi military spokesman, in a statement to INA, denied the Iranian claim and asserted that all planes returned safely to base after carrying out their missions.

On the diplomatic front, the Arab League Council issued a resolution during its 25 March Tunis meeting renewing its "total solidarity" with Iraq and stressing the need to "mobilize all efforts" to end the Gulf war, SPA reported.

### Palestinian Affairs

The formation of a Palestinian National Salvation Front opposed to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's "deviationist command" was announced at a press conference in the Syrian capital reported by Damascus radio. The front is a "temporary framework" to enable the PLO to regain its "national line," a spokesman said, and will struggle to topple the agreement between 'Arafat and King Husayn, considering all those who accept the Amman agreement as "deviators." Those attending the press conference included "PNC Speaker" Khalid al-Fahum and the leaders of the PFLP, the PFLP-General Command, the Palestine Popular Struggle Front, Al-Sa'iqah, the Palestine Liberation Front, and the "Provisional Command" of Fatah — the term for Colonel Sa'id Musa's Fatah dissident group.

The DFLP and the Palestinian Communist Party were not included in the new front and sources cited by *THE JORDAN TIMES* said they have not joined because they fear it will attempt to replace the PLO. For the PLO's part, PLO Deputy Military Commander Khalil al-Wazir told the paper that the new organization's formation is part of Syria's plan to divide, contain, and control the PLO, and a Baghdad Voice of PLO radio commentary likewise castigated the front and its Syrian and Libyan backers. Meanwhile, Libya's Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud met with the leaders of the front in Damascus and invited them to visit Libya, Tripoli radio noted. In another development, Libya has refused to allow a PLO delegation to attend the Afro-Asian Solidarity Conference in Benghazi, causing Algeria and the PDRY to boycott the conference, according to a Palestinian source cited by KUNA.

### Lebanon

*Kidnappings* — A British journalist employed by UNRWA was kidnapped south of Beirut, while a French consular official was abducted in the northern city of Tripoli, an action claimed by the "Lebanese Revolutionary Armed Factions," according to AFP.

*Christians* — The Lebanese Forces Executive Committee, in a statement reported by Voice of Lebanon radio, ordered all its fighters to respect the law and the legitimate authorities, adding that it intends to gradually hand over responsibility for internal security and judicial activity to the state authorities.

### Kuwait

On his arrival in Kuwait, SFRY Defense Secretary Admiral Branko Mamula told KUNA that his talks with Kuwaiti Defense Ministry officials will center around military cooperation and the Middle East situation.

### Pakistan

President Ziaul Haq dissolved the cabinet effective 24 March, Karachi radio reported. Following consultations with the new prime minister, Mohammad Khan Junejo, Zia requested that three ministers, including the foreign minister, remain in their posts until a new cabinet is formed, the radio noted. In a separate development, Junejo told newsmen that he favors a revival of political parties, according to the Karachi paper *DAWN*. When asked about imprisoned opposition party leaders Junejo said that the issue comes under "provincial jurisdiction."

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## Pakistani Air Attack Allegations Rejected

*LD251507 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 1130 GMT 25 Mar 85*

[Text] Kabul, 25 MAR (BAKHTAR) — A spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said today that the Pakistani authorities have recently broadened the dimensions of provocative and poisonous propaganda and fabrications against the DRA and once again have made groundless and wild claims that the DRA aircraft on 16, 18, and 19 March have carried out flights over the air space of that country in the Arandu region and have dropped bombs.

In connection with these false and motivated allegations, the charge d'affiares of the Embassy of Pakistan in Kabul was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at 1130 hours today and the official responsible for the first political section told him the following:

The relevant authorities of the DRA consider these allegations of the authorities of Pakistan completely groundless and resolutely reject them. And in addition state that it would be better that the Pakistani authorities put an end to such allegations, fabrications and fictions, the aim of which is to conceal the persistent and blatant aggression of that country against the territory of Afghanistan and the intensification of tension on the borders of the two countries.

## Foreign Ministry Condemns Reagan Statement

*LD252233 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 25 Mar 85*

[Text] The DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs announces the following:

Three days ago our noble, revolutionary, and struggling people celebrated an auspicious new year's day in light of broad democratic rights and freedoms and under better working and living conditions under the blessing of the national democratic April Revolution, and in particular its new stage of development. This celebration took place across the country, it not only followed the ancient customs and traditions of our people, but reflected their unity around the PDPA, the DRA Government, and their steel-like determination to defend the gains of the April Revolution.

On the same day, U.S. President Ronald Reagan, as in the past few years, issued a statement about our country and once again expressed his hostility to the revolutionary reality in Afghanistan, and once again demagogically said: I, Ronald Reagan, President of the United States, officially declare 21 March 1985 Afghanistan day. Such an utterance inevitably reminds one of a Dari poem where a person loses his home and imagines himself as master of the homes of others.

Once again, Ronald Reagan, with obvious hypocrisy, spoke of human rights in Afghanistan and tried to conceal the inhuman and anticivil essence of the undeclared war of U.S. imperialism and its collaborators against Revolutionary Afghanistan. However, he forgets that the noble people of the world are no longer prepared to hear such sacred words on human rights from the mouth of a person whose administration has raised state terrorism to the level of the country's official policy, and is responsible for shedding the pure blood of hundreds of patriots in Grenada, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Lebanon, and other parts of the world including hundreds of martyrs in our free homeland.

Our noble people seek to maintain the necessary conditions for further utilizing their rights and freedoms enshrined in the progressive laws of their revolutionary country, in further deepening the process of revolution, and in completely crushing the criminal murderous bands who are financed, trained, equipped, and infiltrated into our country by international imperialism, headed by U.S. imperialism, Chinese hegemonism and the reaction of the region, in particular the militarist government of Pakistan and the ruling reaction in Iran, to murder and plunder innocent peopie.

On the other hand, in his statement the U.S. President praised these savage and cultureless bandits and is encouraging them to continue murdering and plundering in Revolutionary Afghanistan. In addition he praises the past, before the liberating April Revolution, when monarchic despotism and decadent feudalist relations were sovereign in Afghanistan. The broad masses of the people were deprived of all human rights and were living in poverty, disease, ignorance, and illiteracy. Imperialism always means that a handful of despots and corrupt men rule the people and brutally exploit the millions of masses. However, the conscience of informed humanity distinguishes between progress and social justice and life in the backward conditions of the middle ages.

Ronald Reagan, as is obvious from his statement, openly wants Afghanistan to return to the dark past so that once again the lost privileges and plundering influence of imperialism in Afghanistan is maintained. But he should know that history does not go backwards. The liberated people of Afghanistan are no longer prepared to be captive and no power in the world has the authority to turn them back from the social and economic order they have chosen for their prosperity and the prosperity of future generations.

The U.S. President has also endeavored to distort facts about the essence of the internationalist assistance of the traditional and loyal friend of the people of Afgqhanistan, the Soviet Union. The world, however, is aware of the noble role of the limited Soviet military contingents in assisting our heroic Army and struggling people and to protect peace and security in the region. They know very well that these units have temporarily come to our country at the request of the lawful government of the DRA according to the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Goodneighborliness between the two countries and Article 51 of the UN Charter. They also know that it is in fact aggressive U.S. imperialism and its collaborators which, by continuing an undeclared war, armed intervention, and other forms of interferences in the internal affairs of the DRA, prevent peaceful solutions to the situations around Afghanistan and the creation of conditions suitable for the limited Soviet military contingents to return to their peace-loving country.

Shedding crocodile tears at the conditions of the so-called Afghan refugees is another example of the Washington administration's deceptions because everyone knows that the Afghan

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### Iran-Iraq War

Iran fired another missile at Baghdad on 27 March in retaliation for recent Iraqi air attacks on Tehran and other Iranian cities, IRNA announced. An Iraqi raid on a residential area in eastern Tehran the night of 26-27 March had killed or wounded seven people, according to the agency. Iraqi officials confirmed the fresh wave of air attacks in statements broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio, asserting that Iraqi planes raided Tehran, Qazvin, and Kashan after earlier "destructive strikes" against Basatin, Esfahan, Hamadan, Gilan-e Gharb, and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab. Meanwhile, an Iranian Petroleum Ministry source cited by Damascus radio denied Iraq's claim that its Air Force hit two more maritime targets in the Gulf on the night of 25-26 March.

As for the land war, an Iraqi military communique broadcast by the Voice of the Masses maintained that Iran used the approximate equivalent of 15 divisions of Revolution Guards and regular forces in its recent offensive, "most" of whom were "wiped out" by Iraq's Armed Forces.

On the diplomatic front, a Saudi official spokesman urged Iran to respond to Arab League and GCC calls for peace and an end to the war, according to a statement carried by Riyadh radio.

### Israel

Industry Minister Ari'el Sharon declared that if Iraq builds a nuclear reactor that threatens Israel's security Israel will "bomb it," Jerusalem radio reported. Sharon described Iraq as a "dangerous enemy" and dismissed descriptions that the Iraq-Jordan-Egypt axis is "moderate."

### Syria

Welcoming the Arab League Council's decision to speed up financial aid to Lebanon, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' contended that Syria's position "tipped the balance" in securing this "great achievement." Al-Shar', who was speaking at a press conference reported by Damascus radio, also claimed that Syria's contacts with Iran have resulted in the latter's commitment to "not entertain any expansionist designs on any inch of Arab territory."

### Jordan

King Husayn and Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez reviewed the Middle East issue and assessed efforts to achieve a settlement of the "region's dispute" during their 26 March talks in Madrid, Amman television reported.

### Sudan

Foreign Minister Hashim 'Uthman denied recent reports that Ethiopian Falashas were transported from eastern Sudan to Israel, SUNA reported. 'Uthman added that these accusations are aimed at "driving a wedge" between Sudan and the Arab world.

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**Bombs Explode in Kabul Stores Catering to Soviets**
*HK261144 Hong Kong AFP in English 1136 GMT 26 Mar 85*

[Text] Islamabad, March 26 (AFP) — Several bombs went off in stores catering for Soviet shoppers in Kabul last week, killing or wounding many Soviet customers including women and children, Western diplomats said here today, quoting "multiple sources".

The first went off in a shop owned by a Russian-speaking Afghan and killed at least three Soviet citizens, including one officer. The diplomats said up to 25 people may have been wounded in the incident.

They said a number of Soviet women and children were seen being taken away in ambulances by Afghan troops who had cordoned off the area after the bomb attack.

Four days later on Thursday, a bomb blew up a clothes shop catering to Soviet clientele near Kabul's Pamir restaurant. Four Soviet men were killed or gravely wounded while three Soviet women were seriously injured, the soruces said.

An East European diplomat's wife was quoted by a diplomats here as saying, "I have told my son not to visit Kabul during his vacation this summer."

The attacks, which marked the run up to Afghanistan's new year "Nawroz" on March 21, triggered renewed fear among Soviet residents who had just started to relax, the sources said. The guerrillas also launched a half-hour attack last Tuesday on Kabul airport but the insurgents lacked fire power and no major damage was reported, the diplomats said.

Two dozen helicopters at Kabul airport were seen ferrying troops in various directions last week while a convoy of tanks and armoured personnel carriers was spotted heading towards Logar, south of the capital.

In the northern Panjsher Valley, stronghold of guerrilla chief Ahmad Shah Masud, the diplomats said a three-pronged attacked launched this month by Soviet forces had failed but another Soviet offensive was expected in mid-April.

They said the Soviet troops were apparently trying to seal off the southern approaches to the Panjsher and consolidate their positions in the lower reaches of the valley in order to "completly eliminate" the Masud forces.

**Demonstration Against U.S. Intervention Held**
*LD222000 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 20 Mar 85*

[Excerpts] In a meeting today, more than 300,000 workers of Kabul city expressed their deep hatred and indignation, chanting slogans such as: "Death to U.S. criminal imperialism"; "A curse upon Reagan, this murderer of thousands of Afghans, and upon his criminal and warmongering administration"; and with one voice condemned the undeclared war of imperialism, promoted foremost by the Reagan administration, and his shameless crimes and bestial hostility. Today the atmosphere in Kabul city was filled with the cries and protests of hundreds of thousands of workers of Kabul city against the intervention of U.S. imperialism and its aggression and crimes against our homeland, people, and revolution. The earth and sky was filled with the shouts of "Death to America."

This morning, hundreds of thousands of workers, peasants, intellectuals, religious leaders, artisans, students, men, women, old women, and youths in united ranks with clenched fists and enemy-burning slogans moved to the center of the city. The waves of this human flood joined at the Ariana crossroads and then the march began.

The BAKHTAR Information Agency correspondents report that the Kabul citizens in this great march — which was led by Mahmud Barialay, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; Zohur Razmju, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the Kabul City Party Committee; Mir Sahib Karwal, secretary of the party Central Committee; Abdul Majid Sarboland, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers; a number of members of the party Central Committee and Revolutionary Council, and a number of party and state cadres; some heads of zones; some secretaries of the provincial party committees, and some governors of the country's provinces — carried hundreds of anti-imperialist slogans, cartoons, friendship slogans with fraternal people and about peace, and photographs of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, and condemned with revolutionary and patriotic fervor the inhumane and inhuman actions of imperialism in our beloved and free country.

The shouts of "Death to America," "Death to Reagan," which shook Kabul today are a reflection of the voices of millions of Afghans in deep hostility against the world-devouring United States and in unreserved defense of their country's revolutionary leadership.

The BIA correspondents add that before the beginning of the march, a great meeting of Kabul citizens was held at the Ariana crossroads in which the deputy head of the Kabul City Party Committee and the deputy head of the PDPA Central Committee Department of International Relations, spoke:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker in Dari] Death to the murderer Reagan; death to Mr Reagan, this killer of our children.

Comrades, friends and noble workers of Kabul. Seven years have elapsed since the victory of the April national democratic revolution. During this time all heretic forces in the world, including international reaction and imperialism, hegemonism, Zionism, the reactionary states of the region, headed by the criminal imperialism of the United States, twist like wounded wolves, howl, and are continuing their lunatic undeclared war against the April Revolution and the people of Afghanistan.

Mr Reagan, the head of the band of gangsters who are leading the present U.S. Administration, every year marks a day called Afghanistan day. They speak of pretentious friendship for the Afghans. But let us pay attention to a statement made 7 years

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### AFP: Gandhi To Head New Intelligence Committee

*HK291030 Hong Kong AFP in English 1030 GMT 29 Mar 85*

[By Govindan Unny]

[Text] New Delhi, March 29 (AFP) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi is to head a high-powered Joint Committee on National Security (JCNS) which has just been set up to monitor India's intelligence operation, both internal and external, a highly placed official said today.

The start-up date of the committee, which is modelled partly on the U.S. National Security Council, has not been officially announced for reasons of secrecy.

But aside from Mr Gandhi, the official said committee members would include, among others, the secretary to the Cabinet, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, directors of the Intelligence Bureau (IB) and the Research and Analysis Wing (RAW), director of the Institute of Defence Studies and Analysis and a prominent politician from the ruling Congress (I) Party. The status of the politician, who is yet to be selected, would be at least that of chief minister of a state, the official, who did not want to be named, said.

Mr Gandhi is also thinking of inducting a high-level scientist into the group in view of the reports of a nuclear build-up by Pakistan, the official added.

The establishment of the committee is in line with Mr Gandhi's assurance to Parliament in January that he would revamp the country's intelligence services. The assurance came after the uncovering of the biggest-ever espionage gang in India which was alleged to have channelled several state secrets to foreign agents. The arrest of over a dozen officials in the spy case, including some from Mr Gandhi's own Secretariat, sent shock waves through the Indian bureaucracy. It led to the resignation of at least two top civil servants, the principal secretary to the prime minister and the secretary to the Department of Defence Production. Several others were transferred to state governments or shifted to other central ministries under Mr Gandhi's orders.

Administrative reforms were also quietly enforced to bring about greater discipline and efficiency and stricter security.

The intelligence services, which were already under a cloud following the assassination of Indira Gandhi by her own Sikh security guards in October, came under further attack for the facile manner in which the alleged spies were peddling official secrets for several years.

The spy scandal reinforced the urgency for an overhaul of the intelligence set-up which Mr Gandhi had already planned to do soon after he took over power following his mother's death, the official said.

During Mrs Gandhi's regime, intelligence agencies covering the internal, external and military fields submitted reports to a Joint Intelligence Committee (JIC) which functioned as an apex body. The JIC made the final situation assessment based on the reports and conveyed it to the Cabinet.

The newly formed JCNS is not intended to replace the JIC immediately, the official said, adding that it is expected to function on an experimental basis for some months after which the future of the JIC would be decided.

### Bhandari 'Satisfied' With Talks in Sri Lanka

*BK281438 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 28 Mar 85*

[Text] India-Sri Lanka talks on ethnic issue are to be continued in New Delhi next month during the visit of Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister Mr A.C.S. Hameed. He is coming mainly to attend the Nonaligned Coordination Bureau meeting, but will exchange views with the Indian leaders on the ethnic issue in light of the foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari's, talks with Sri Lanka authorities in Colombo.

An official spokesman said in New Delhi today that Mr Bhandari has returned satisfied with his talks in the Sri Lanka capital. He said the talks were very constructive and will contribute to a peaceful settlement of the ethnic problem.

The spokesman said that Mr Bhandari's discussions in Colombo also covered the question of refugees and fishermen.

In reply to a question, he said a summit meeting as such was not discussed, but President Jayewardene is always welcomed in this country.

He said our immediate task is to defuse the situation and Mr Bhandari's visit to Colombo followed by the coming visit of the Sri Lanka foreign minister to India paved the way for productive negotiations.

In reply to another question, the spokesman said the dates for the Indian delegation's visit to Iran are still being worked out.

### Minister Leaves for Tehran on Peace Mission

*BK291249 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 29 Mar 85*

[Text] The minister of state for external affiars, Mr Khurshid Alam Khan, left New Delhi today for Tehran (?for) continuing his peace mission to end the Gulf war. He is accompanied by the foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, and other officials.

Speaking to newsmen at the airport, Mr Khan said he is hopeful that his mission will be successful. Asked whether he is carrying a message from the prime minister, he said the message has already reached Tehran.

The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, who is also the chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, has expressed his anxiety that the war should end soon and peace prevail in the region. Mr Khan said he is likely to stay in Tehran for a day to have talks with the Iranian leaders. Mr Bhandari told newsmen that in view of his Tehran visit, he has postponed his trip to Katmandu by a day and now he will go there on Monday.